Claims

1. Use of (-)-carvone acetals of the general formula (I)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^1 & R^3 \\
O & C & R^6 \\
\hline
O & C & R^5 \\
R^2 & (I)
\end{array}$$

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as flavourings,

wherein R^1 to R^6 independently of one another denote hydrogen or an alkyl group with 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

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or optionally R^4 and R^6 together denote a carbon single bond or a $-(CR^7R^8)_x$ -group, wherein x can take on the values 1 or 2 and R^7 and R^8 independently of one another denote hydrogen or an alkyl group with 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

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- 2. Use according to claim 1, characterised in that, in formula (I), R¹ to R⁶ denote a hydrogen atom or R¹ and R² independently of one another denote an alkyl group with 1 to 4 carbon atoms and R³ to R⁶ a hydrogen atom or the residues R⁴ and R⁶ together denote a carbon single bond and R¹, R², R³ and R⁵ independently of one another denote a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group with 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

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3. Use according to claim 1, characterised in that (-)-carvone dimethyl acetal, (-)-carvone diethyl acetal, (-)-carvone ethylene glycol acetal, (-)-carvone 1,2-propylene glycol acetal, (-)-carvone 1,2-butylene glycol acetal or (-)-carvone 2,3-butylene glycol acetal are used.

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- 4. (-)-Carvone dimethyl acetal, (-)-carvone diethyl acetal and (-)-carvone 1,2-butylene glycol acetal.
- 5. Flavour and taste compositions containing (-)-carvone acetals of formula (I) from claim 1.
 - 6. Flavour and taste compositions according to claim 5, characterised in that they have a content of (-)-carvone acetals of formula (I) of 0.5 to 60 wt.%.
- 7. Foods and items consumed for pleasure, body care products and pharmaceutical preparations containing (-)-carvone acetals of formula (I) from claim 1.
- 8. Body care products according to claim 7, characterised in that these are oral care products, especially toothpastes, tooth gels, dental creams, dental care chewing gums and mouthwashes.
 - 9. Agents according to at least one of claims 5 to 8, characterised in that they have a pH greater than or equal to 7.5.
 - 10. Process for the flavouring of foods, items consumed for pleasure, body care products or pharmaceutical preparations, characterised in that flavour and taste compositions according to claim 5 or 6 are incorporated.
- 25 11. Use of flavour and taste compositions according to claim 5 or 6 for the flavouring of foods, items consumed for pleasure, body care products or pharmaceutical preparations.